

PART 36

Dear All,

We send our wishes and good thoughts, hoping that you and your loved ones have remained well these past weeks. We also send our heartfelt prayers for the many who have suffered illness and the loss of family, friends, and colleagues during these times. Our thoughts are with you.

As we begin to resume virtual court operations for non-essential matters here in New York State, please be advised that Part 36 is in the process of rescheduling matters previously calendared for conference in March and April 2020 which were administratively adjourned. On your rescheduled conference date, please submit a fully executed stipulation of settlement with respect to outstanding discovery and compliance matters. The submitted proposed stipulation will be reviewed and so-ordered, as appropriate. In the interim, as to these matters which were scheduled for **conference** in March and April 2020, all discovery deadlines contained within the most recent preliminary or compliance conference stipulation/order are hereby extended for sixty days from April 13, 2020.

Please be advised as to **preliminary conferences**, a telephonic and/or video conference will be required. Parties for preliminary conference will be contacted by the Part as to scheduling, etc..

For all other matters, discovery deadlines which were to be met in March and/or April 2020 are hereby extended sixty days from April 13, 2020.

To the extent that additional issues arise, please advise the Part via e-mail to txchamber@nycourts.gov and kstewart@nycourts.gov. (Please be reminded to copy all parties on e-mail messages to the court.)

As to settlement conferences and matters scheduled for mediation/alternative dispute resolution, these matters will be conferenced telephonically and/or by video conference. Parties in these matters will be advised by chambers staff of their scheduled appearance date in the upcoming weeks.

As to pending motions, fully submitted matters will be marked "decision reserved" on the date of final submission in accordance with directives outlined in the Chief Administrative Judge's memorandum. In the event parties seek adjournment of the court's determination of a pending motion, please contact the court and advise as to the basis for such request, i.e., ongoing settlement discussions, unforeseen circumstances, etc...

If any party is in need of additional assistance, please notify Part 36 via email at txchamber@nycourts.gov and kstewart@nycourts.gov.

Finally, please rest assured that we all understand the toll, seen and unseen, that this crisis has extracted upon us all. We will endeavor to be flexible in meeting the needs of all parties and are here to administer justice and resolve the many issues that the public relies upon the Court to handle daily. Please be well and take good care.

Sincerely,

Justice Verna L. Saunders and Law Clerks Taisha L. Chambers, Esq. and Kamille Stewart, Esq.